

**CLAIMS**

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A device for golf putting practice comprising a member with a longitudinal centerline, a head end and a back end, means for positioning a golf ball at the head end of the member so that the center of the golf ball is in alignment with the centerline.

2. A device according to claim 1, wherein the means for positioning is configured to allow the golf ball to rest on a putting surface and proceed toward a target without interference from the device.

3. A device according to claim 1, wherein the means for positioning is comprised of a cutout at the head end of the device.

4. A device according to claim 3, wherein the cutout is semicircular.

5. A device according to claim 1, further including a horizontal line, said horizontal line being perpendicular to the centerline.

- 1           6.     A device according to claim 5, wherein the horizontal line is near  
2           the head end of the device.
- 1           7.     A device according to claim 1, further including a plurality of  
2           horizontal lines, each horizontal line being perpendicular to the centerline.
- 1           8.     A device according to claim 7, wherein the plurality of horizontal  
2           lines include a horizontal line near the head end of the device.
- 1           9.     A device according to claim 1, further including at least one hole.
- 1           10.    A device according to claim 9, wherein the hole is near the back  
2           end of the device and sized to accommodate a tee.
- 1           11.    A device according to claim 1, further including legible  
2           instructions of use on the device.
- 1           12.    A device according to claim 1, wherein the device is a one-piece  
2           apparatus.

1           13.     A device according to claim 12, wherein the device is configured  
2           for use on artificial and natural putting surfaces.

1           14.     A device according to claim 1, wherein the device is configured to  
2           not physically control or constrain a putting swing.

1           15.     A device according to claim 1, wherein the device is configured to  
2           not physically control or constrain a putting stance.

1           16.     A method of putting using a device according to claim 1 and a  
2           putter, said putter having a face and a sweet spot, said method comprising  
3           steps of:

4                     placing the device on the putting surface;

5                     positioning a golf ball adjacent to or abutting the head end of the  
6           device and in alignment with the centerline of the device;

7                     squaring the putter so that the putter head is generally  
8           perpendicular to the centerline, the face of the putter is generally  
9           perpendicular to a surface of the device, and the sweet spot of the putter is  
10          generally aligned with the centerline;

11                    moving the putter head back with the sweet spot aligned with the

12 centerline;

13 and moving the putter head forward in alignment with the  
14 centerline, so that the sweet spot of the squared putter face impacts the  
15 aligned golf ball.

1 17. A one-piece device for golf putting practice comprising:  
2 a member with a longitudinal centerline,  
3 a head end and a back end,  
4 a cutout at the head end configured to position a golf ball in  
5 alignment with the centerline,  
6 a hole for accommodating a tee; and  
7 a horizontal line, said horizontal line being perpendicular to the  
8 centerline and adjacent to the head end.

1 18. A device according to claim 17, wherein the cutout is semicircular.

1 19. A device according to claim 17, wherein the hole is near the back  
2 end of the device.

1 20. A device according to claim 17, further including legible  
2 instructions of use on the device.